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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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2292	7590	10/21/2004	EXAMINER

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	EXAMINER
	REILLY, SEAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2153	

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _8/29/2001_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-21_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-21_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _29 August 2001_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "judging" as used is indefinite and fails to particularly point out a function.

2. Claims 19-21 each recite the limitation "the computer-readable storage medium" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims. It is assumed claims 19-21 should depend upon claim 18.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over D'Souza et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,625,649, hereinafter "D'Souza"), in view of Kao et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,275,944, hereinafter "Kao").

4. In considering claims 1, 10, and 18, D'Souza discloses an automatic network
connecting system, method, and computer-readable storage medium comprising:

□   a means for storing user private data and network connection public data (Col
7, lines 46-53);

□   a means for accessing the user private data and the network connection
public data from a storage means (Col 7, lines 46-53);

□   a user interface module for providing at least one prompt, so that a user can
input a network service request according to the prompt in one touch (Fig 4,
Components 82, 84, 86, and 88; Col 2, lines 37-40);

□   a responding module for receiving the network service request (Col 7, lines
16-19) and accessing the user private data and the network connection public
data stored in the database through the data managing module according to
the network service request to complete the network service requested by the
user automatically (Col 7, lines 23-25, 46-53, 60-66).

While D'Souza discloses a means for storing/accessing user private data and network connection data, D'Souza does not disclose specifically how this data is stored or accessed. Nonetheless, the feature of storing and accessing such data in a database is well known, as evidenced by Kao. In a similar art, Kao discloses a network connection system, wherein two databases are used to store/access user private data and network connection public data (Col 2, lines 44-47 and 52-66). Kao further discloses that the connection system provides the benefit of securely retrieving all the passwords for a user from secure storage and automatically issuing sign-on to a network (Col 2, lines 56-60). Thus, given the teaching of Kao, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to design the D'Souza system to utilize a set of databases for the storage/access of user private data and network connection public data, in order to provide for secure password storage and automatic network sign-on.

5. In considering claim 2, Kao discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the database comprises:

  ❑ a private sub-database for storing the user private data; and a public sub-database for storing the network connection public data (Col 2, lines 42-47).

6. In considering claim 3, Kao discloses the system of claim 2, wherein the data managing module comprises:

❑   a private data managing sub-module for accessing the user private data

stored in the private sub-database; and a public data managing sub-module

for accessing the network connection public data stored in the public sub-

database (Col 2, lines 52-60).

7. In considering claims 4, 12, 13, 19, and 20, Kao discloses a network-connecting

sub-module for establishing a network connection; and a network-disconnecting sub-

module for disconnecting an established network connection (Col 7, line 29-30).

8. In considering claim 5, D'Souza discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the

network service request comprises a web page browsing request (Col 7, line 57).

9.   In considering claim 6, D'Souza discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the one

touch comprises a hitting of a key on a keyboard (Col 2, line 33).

10. In considering claims 7 and 15, D'Souza discloses the system and method wherein

❑   the user private data comprise an ID and a password of the user (Col 6, lines

3-4); and

❑   the network connection public data comprise the IP address of a server (Col

7, lines 57-58). A URL address will inherently be converted to an IP address

and is therefore considered to be one in the same.

11. In considering claims 8, 9, 16, and 17, D'Souza discloses the system and method

wherein the server is an HTTP server or the server is an ISP server (Col 7, lines 57-

58).

12. In considering claim 11, as stated above the term "judging" is ambiguous. Claim 11 is interpreted to read the method of claim 10 further compromising: identifying the type of network service requested (D'Souza Col 3, lines 16-21).

13. In considering claims 14 and 21, D'Souza discloses the method and computer-readable storage medium further comprising:

- receiving the user private data and the network connection public data input by the user (Col 2, lines 40-43); and

- storing the user private data and the network connection public data input by the user into the database (Col 2, lines 40-43).

14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. published patent application 2003/0014411 discloses a system which allows a user to connect to a specific Internet website by pressing a function key on a keyboard.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean Reilly whose telephone number is 703-308-8646. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

October 13, 2004

Bradley Edelman
Art Unit 2153